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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/581,353

05/31/2006

Uwe Hauf

2006-084

3626

27569 7590 09/08/2008  
PAUL AND PAUL  
2000 MARKET STREET  
SUITE 2900  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

EXAMINER

MACARTHUR, SYLVIA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1792

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/08/2008

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

INFO@PAULANDPAUL.COM  
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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/581,353	<b>Applicant(s)</b> HAUF ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Sylvia R. MacArthur	<b>Art Unit</b> 1792	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 May 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                       | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/31/2006</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 2-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

3. Claim 2 recites the limitation "carder elements" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. For the purposes of examination, the examiner has substituted "carrier elements" for "carder elements".

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-4, 6-10, and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Henington et al (EP 0959153).

6. Regarding claims 1,4, and 7: Henington et al teaches an electroplating machine (electrolytic treatment) of lat workpieces (PCBs), comprising conveying members (rollers 20A, B) on conveying path, see Fig. 1. Carrier elements are illustrated in Fig.7C comprise recess 116, insertion elements 24 are illustrated in Figs. 7A,B. Fig. 7c illustrates how the recess and carrier

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elements fit. Note that the intended use of the apparatus is not given structural patentable weight as an apparatus is what it is and not what it does.

7. Regarding claim 2: See Fig. 7C
8. Regarding claims 3 and 6: See Fig. 1.
9. Regarding claim 8: See [022], the fluid delivery device includes nozzle 52 known as flow, jet and/or fan nozzles.
10. Regarding claim 9: See [022].
11. Regarding claim 10: [0029].
12. Regarding claims 20-22: See Figures.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

13. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

14. Claims 5 and 11-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henington et al (EP 0959153).
15. The teachings of Henington et al were discussed above.
16. Henington et al fails to teach the axles of the conveying rollers are offset. This arrangement is an alternative to the claimed arrangement of [0039] and [0040]. The motivation to offset the axles is to extend the range of motion of the conveying rollers. Thus, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the claimed invention to offset the axles of the conveying rollers.

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17. Regarding claims 11-19: Henington et al fails to teach the particular arrangements of the components as recited. Note that the arrangements are well within the parameters of design of one of ordinary skill in the art and barring a showing of criticality by applicant are deemed obvious and are alternative arrangements of the apparatus of Hennington et al.

18. Claims 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henington et al (EP 0959153) in view of Pender (US 4,607,590).

19. The teachings of Henington et al were discussed above. Pender fails to teach the axles of the conveying rollers are offset. See Figure 1 of Pender. The motivation to modify the apparatus of Henington et al is that the offset axles so that no substrate will be damaged by other substrates or their peripheral edges do not touch, see col. 4 lines 24-65. Thus, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the claimed invention to modify the apparatus of Henington et al to offset the axles of the rollers.

20. Claims 11-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henington et al (EP 0959153) in view of Haas et al (DE 4035932).

21. Henington et al fails to teach the particular arrangements of the components as recited. See the Figures of Haas et al that teach or suggest the claimed arrangements. Note that the arrangements are well within the parameters of design of one of ordinary skill in the art and barring a showing of criticality by applicant are deemed obvious and are alternative arrangements of the apparatus of Hennington et al.

22. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sylvia R. MacArthur whose telephone number is 571-272-1438. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th during the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m..

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Parviz Hassanzadeh can be reached on 571-272-1435. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

September 1, 2008

/Sylvia R MacArthur/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1792